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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARY L. LANDRIEU, a Senator from the State of Louisiana.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Liberating Lord, as we look forward to our celebration of Independence Day, we renew our dedication to You. We praise You for the gallant and heroic women and men who were the heroes and heroines of the birth of our Nation. They were people who put their trust in You, followed Your guidance in the quest of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and fought for freedom for all.

Thank You for the sense of destiny they had, that this was to be a unique nation in the family of nations, a nation under You as only Sovereign. Yet when we look back over the 226 years of our history, we realize that each generation must rediscover true patriotism, live out the American dream, and battle for freedom of opportunity for all people, regardless of race or creed.

Lord, we depend on You as we seek to be worthy of the independence we celebrate. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARY L. LANDRIEU led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 25, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARY L. LANDRIEU, a Senator from the State of Louisiana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Ms. LANDRIEU thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. The Chair will shortly announce we will be in a period of morning business until 10:30 today. That period of time is under the control of the majority leader or his designee. At 10:30, we resume consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill, and from 12:30 to 2:15 we will have our weekly party conferences.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to a period of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:30, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee.

WOMEN IN THE SENATE

Mr. REID. Madam President, I was here yesterday morning when the Senate convened. The Presiding Officer at that time was the Senator from Arkansas, Mrs. LINCOLN. This morning, the Senate is opened by the Senator from Louisiana, Ms. LANDRIEU. I mention that because I came here when we did not have many women Senators. It adds such a bright light to the Senate to have these strong, good, women serving the country. One out of every five Democrats in the Senate is a woman. That is going to increase. It will be one in four, one in three, then it will be even, and, who knows, maybe one day women will be in the majority.

I applaud the people of Louisiana for sending to the Senate MARY LANDRIEU, who has added so much in her 6 years here.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 4931

Mr. REID. Madam President, it is my understanding H.R. 4931 is at the desk and is due for its second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. REID. I ask H.R. 4931 be read for the second time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4931) to provide that the pension and individual retirement arrangement provisions of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 shall be permanent.

Mr. REID. I object to further proceedings on this bill at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I have asked permission to speak for up to 10 minutes as in morning business.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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